

THE PRINCIPAL
A C T S
OF THE
General Assembly
OF THE
C H U R C H
OF
S C O T L A N D,

CONVENED AT EDINBURGH, THE 16th DAY OF MAY 1793.

COLLECTED AND EXTRACTED FROM THE RECORDS BY THE CLERK THEREOF.



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THE PRINCIPAL
A C T S
OF THE
General Assembly
OF THE
CHURCH of SCOTLAND,

Begun at EDINBURGH, the 16th day of MAY 1793,
and concluded the 27th day of the said Month and
Year.

I.

The KING's Commission to DAVID Earl
of LEVEN produced, and ordered to
be recorded.

Edinburgh, May 16, 1793.

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY of this national
CHURCH being convened and constituted,
there was produced to them, by the Right
Honourable DAVID EARL of LEVEN, the
KING's Commission, sealed with the seal ap-
pointed by the Treaty of Union to be kept and used in
Scotland, in place of the Great Seal of *Scotland*, making
and constituting him his Majesty's High Commissioner
and

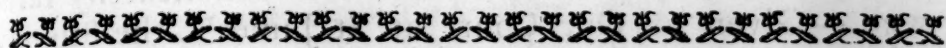
and Representative in this Assembly; which Commission was publicly read with all due honour and respect, and ordered to be recorded in the books of Assembly;—the tenor whereof follows:

GEORGIUS, Dei gratia, Magnæ Britanniae, Franciæ et Hiberniæ Rex, Fidei Defensor: Omnibus probis hominibus, ad quos præsentem literæ nostræ pervenerint, salutem. Quandoquidem Nos considerantes, quod Generalis Ecclesiæ Scotiæ Conventus in decimum sextum diem Maii proximi convenire ordinatus fuit; Nosque abundè cupidi, et necessarium esse judicantes in commodum dictæ ecclesiæ, ut idem ecclesiæ generalis conventus die statuto debitè observetur, atque rebus magni momenti Nos aliò vocantibus, dicto conventui personaliter interesse nequimus; Nosque abundè satisfacti de sufficientiâ et fidelitate fidelissimi et prædilectissimi Nostri consanguinei Davidis Comitæ de Leven, quod ad summum munus Nostri supremi Commissionarii ad dictum generalem conventum ritè exercendum et obeundum usquequaque sit instructus: Noveritis igitur, Nos nominasse, constituisse, et ordinasse, tenoreque præsentium, nominare, constituere, et ordinare, memoratum, fidelissimum et prædilectissimum Nostrium consanguineum Davidem Comitem de Leven, supremum Nostrium Commissionarium dicto generali ecclesiæ Scotiæ conventui, dando et concedendo illi plenam potestatem, Commissionem, et warrantum sacram Nostram Personam et auctoritatem regalem repræsentandi, nec non præsentiam Nostram supplendi, et locum Nostrium in dicto subsequenti generali conventu, tanquam Commissionario Nostro ad hunc effectum specialiter constituto, tenendi, omniaque alia ad imperium et munus Commissionarii pro generali ecclesiæ conventu peragendi, tam plenè adeoque liberè in quovis respectu, quam quilibet alius in eodem summo munere fecerat, seu quovis tempore præterito facere potuerat, vel ac si Nos ipsi personaliter præsentem facere potuerimus. Quæque omnia et singula quæ dictus David Comes de Leven, in hac Nostra Commissionem prosequenda legitimè fecerit, seu fieri ordinaverit, Nos firmiter approbamus, et ratificamus. Insuper omnibus et singulis dicti conventus et ecclesiæ pastoribus et presbyteris cæterisque quibuscunque, intra illam partem Magnæ Britanniae Scotiam vocatam, subditis Nostreis, cujuscunque gradus seu qualitatis, ut dictum Davidem Comitem de Leven, tanquam supremum Nostrium Commissionarium, quoad effectum et modum supra mentionatum, revereantur, agnoscant et audiant, stricte mandamus et præcipimus: Atque hanc Nostram Commissionem à dicto decimo sexto die Maii, proximi incipere, et deinceps durante subsequente sessione dicti generalis conventus in vigore continuare, declaramus, vel usque dum a Nobis revocabitur, et exonerabitur.

In

In cujus rei testimonium, presentibus sigillum Nostrum per Unionis tractatum custodiend. et in Scotiâ vice et loco Magni Sigilli ejusdem utend. ordinat. appendi mandavimus. Apud aulam Nostram apud St James's, trigesimo die mensis Aprilis, anno Domini millesimo septingentesimo et nonagesimo tertio, Regniue Nostrî anno trigesimo tertio.

Per signaturam manu S. D. N. Regis superscriptam.



II.

The KING's most gracious Letter to the General Assembly, presented to them by his Majesty's Commissioner.

GEORGE R.

RIGHT REVEREND and Well-beloved, We greet you well.—The constant proofs We have received of your Loyalty and Attachment to Our Person and Government, and of your zeal for the cultivation of sound Learning and true Religion, cannot fail of securing to you the continuance of Our Royal Favour and Protection: And it is with undiminished satisfaction, that We take this occasion of repeating to you Our Resolution to preserve and maintain the Church of Scotland in all its established Rights and Privileges. We are confident, that your proceedings will be uniformly directed, to those great and salutary objects for which you are assembled, and that you will labour to promote such Measures, as are best calculated to diffuse the Principles and Practice of Genuine Christianity, to check the progress of vice and impiety, and to instill into all ranks and descriptions of men, that attention to Moral Duties, that love of Order and Obedience to the Laws, upon which the Peace, Harmony and true Happiness of Society, so entirely depend. We have again thought fit, to appoint Our Right Trusty and Right Well-beloved Cousin, DAVID Earl of LEVEN, to represent Our Royal

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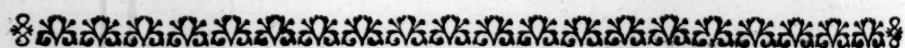
Person

Person in this Assembly, being well assured from his approved Merits, and his Experience and Knowledge in the administration of the Duties of the important Office entrusted to him, that he cannot but continue to be highly acceptable to you. We have only to add Our earnest desire that your proceedings may, as heretofore, be in all things marked by that unanimity, cordial Affection, and Christian Charity one towards another, which cannot fail of bringing the purposes of your meeting to a happy conclusion. And so We bid you heartily farewell.—Given at Our Court at St James's, the 8th day of May 1793, in the 33d year of Our Reign.

By his Majesty's Command,

HENRY DUNDAS.

Addressed thus :—*To the Right Reverend and Well-beloved the Moderator, Ministers and Elders of the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland.*



III.

The General Assembly's Answer to the KING's most gracious Letter.

May it please Your Majesty,

THE gracious letter with which Your Majesty has been pleased to honour this Meeting of the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland, was received with the utmost respect and gratitude.

As dutiful Subjects of a virtuous and affectionate Sovereign, we have a just sense of the confidence which Your Majesty reposes in our loyalty and attachment to Your Person and Government, and in our zeal for the cultivation of Sound Learning and True Religion. We feel in it a most pleasing recompense for having done
our

our duty ; and we trust, that our future Conduct will continue to deserve the same honourable proofs of Royal Favour and Protection.

Convinced, by long and happy experience, of Your Majesty's good disposition to the Church of Scotland, we rely, with the most perfect security, on Your resolution to maintain it in all its established Rights and Privileges. We regard the present declaration of Your Royal purpose to this effect, as a powerful encouragement to direct our Proceedings to those great Objects for which we are assembled : And it shall be our care, in compliance with Your Majesty's desire, to labour assiduously in promoting such measures as are best calculated to diffuse the Principles and Practice of Genuine Christianity, to check the progress of Vice and Impiety, and to instill into all ranks of men, that attention to moral duties ; that love of order and obedience to the laws, upon which the peace, harmony and true happiness of Society so entirely depend. These are the great ends of our public establishment ; and we deem it a peculiar felicity, that we live under a Prince, who, by reminding us of our proper work, teaches us, that the faithful discharge of our duty to God and our Country, is the most certain recommendation to his favour.

We beg leave to return our humble Thanks to Your Majesty, for Your persevering attention to the interests of Christian Knowledge and Virtue in the Highlands and Islands of Scotland. We consider Your Royal Donation for this purpose as a fresh proof of Your paternal care for all your Subjects ; and we shall endeavour to apply it in such a manner, as may best promote the generous and pious design for which it is bestowed.

The hereditary and warm attachment of the Earl of LEVEN to the cause of Civil and Religious Liberty ; his affectionate regard for the Church of Scotland ; his exemplary conduct in private life ; and his approved experience and knowledge in the administration of his important office, render the re-appointment of him to represent Your Majesty's Royal Person a most acceptable mark of attention to this Assembly.

Permit us to assure Your Majesty, that it shall be our study, to conduct all our proceedings with that unanimity, cordial affection, and Christian charity to one another, which become us as the Servants of the Prince
of

of Peace, and which are so necessary for bringing the purposes of our Meeting to a happy conclusion.

That Almighty GOD may protect Your Majesty's Person, prolong Your Days, and direct Your Councils; that He may bless the QUEEN, the PRINCE OF WALES, and all the Royal Family; that He may continue with us the many National Blessings, which we enjoy under Your Majesty's mild Administration, and transmit them, as a precious inheritance, to our posterity; and that, after reigning long, with wisdom and felicity, over a free, loyal, and happy people, You may receive from Him the recompense of an heavenly crown,—are the fervent Prayers of,

May it please Your Majesty,

Your Majesty's most faithful,

Most obedient, and most loyal Subjects,

The Ministers and Elders met in this National Assembly of the Church of Scotland.

Signed in our name,

In our presence,

And at our appointment, by

EDINBURGH, }
May 18. 1793. }

THOMAS HARDY, *Moderator.*

IV. The



IV.

The General Assembly's dutiful Address
to His Majesty, on the subject of the
present War.

Most Gracious Sovereign,

WE, your Majesty's most dutiful and loyal subjects, the Ministers and Elders of the Church of Scotland, met in the General Assembly, think it our duty, in the present situation of public affairs, to express our zeal for the welfare of our Country, and our affectionate regard for a Prince, who is the Guardian of Liberty, and the Father of his People.

We have beheld with the strongest feelings of disapprobation the insidious designs and violent attempts of the French Nation, to overturn the Constitutions, and disturb the Peace of most of the other Nations in Europe. We are fully sensible, that, in consequence of the Declaration of War by the National Convention of France against Great Britain, and by the acts of hostility in which they have been engaged, your Majesty, with the approbation of Parliament, was necessarily led to take vigorous measures for repressing their ambition, and defeating their unjust enterprizes.

Though some of the People under our care were deluded by the dangerous Principles which were industriously propagated, we can assure Your Majesty, that the great body of the Members of this National Church continues strongly attached to Your Majesty's Person and Government, and ardently desirous of the success of those measures, which, with the blessing of Providence, may transmit our excellent Constitution unimpaired to the latest Posterity.

Your Majesty has been graciously pleased to express, by the Lord High Commissioner, the sense which you entertain of the boldness and zeal with which the Ministers of the Church of Scotland manifested their loyalty upon a late trying occasion; a mark of Your Royal approbation which we received with profound respect,
and

and which affords us the most entire satisfaction, because we are conscious that it is not misplaced.

Attached by the genius of Presbyterian Government to good order, no less than to Freedom; we have employed all our influence in counteracting the tendency of the Seditious Writings which were assiduously circulated, and in warning the People committed to our care against the busy efforts of designing or deluded men. In the true spirit of those principles which our Fathers, in former seasons of danger and alarm, strenuously asserted, we shall continue to cherish in the minds of the People, loyalty to our Gracious Sovereign, veneration for the British Constitution, and obedience to the Laws: And having nothing so much at heart as the glory of God, the honour of Your Majesty, and the support of your Government, we trust, that, while we approve ourselves the dutiful Servants of the Prince of Peace, we shall enjoy the continuance of Your Royal protection, and the good opinion of all the true Friends of their Country.

While we congratulate Your Majesty upon the check which, under Divine Providence, has already been given to the alarming progress of our Enemies, we offer our earnest supplications, that the God of Battles may continue to bless Your Fleets and Armies with success, and may bring the present War to a speedy and happy termination. That mutual love and confidence may ever subsist between Your Majesty and Your Subjects; and that a Race of Kings of Your Royal Line, lovers of Religion, Liberty, and their Country, may always sway the Sceptre over these Lands,—are the fervent Prayers of,

May it please Your Majesty,
Your Majesty's most dutiful,
Most faithful and most obedient Subjects,

The Ministers and Elders met in this National Assembly of the Church of Scotland.

Signed in our name,
In our presence,
And at our appointment, by

EDINBURGH, }
May 18. 1793. }

THOMAS HARDY, *Moderator.*

V. COM-

V.

COMMISSION of the General Assembly to certain Ministers and Ruling Elders, for discussing affairs referred to them.

Edinburgh, May 25. 1793. Sess. 9.

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY did, and hereby do nominate, commission and appoint the Reverend Dr THOMAS HARDY, one of the Ministers of the City, and *Regius* Professor of Divinity and Church History in the University of Edinburgh, their Moderator: And,—From the *Presbytery* of *Dunse*, Dr Robert Bowmaker at Dunse, Mr Johnston at Cranshaws, *Ministers*; Mathew Sandilands, Esq; of Couston, *Ruling Elder*:—From the *Presbytery* of *Churnside*, Dr Walter Anderson at Churnside, Mr George Drummond at Mordington, *Ministers*; George Buchan, Esq; of Kello, *Ruling Elder*:—From the *Presbytery* of *Kelfo*, Mr Robert Turnbull at Sprouston, Mr Cornelius Lundie at Kelfo, *Ministers*; Sir James Pringle of Stitchell, Bart. *Ruling Elder*:—From the *Presbytery* of *Jedburgh*, Mr William Brown at Bedrule, Mr James Rutherford at Hownam, Mr David Brown at Crailing, *Ministers*; Mr James Dickson, merchant in Hawick, *Ruling Elder*:—From the *Burgh* of *Jedburgh*, John MacFarlan, Esq; advocate:—From the *Presbytery* of *Lauder*, Mr Alexander Duncan at Gordon, Mr Thomas Murray at Channelkirk, *Ministers*; Thomas Cleghorn, Esq; Inspector-General for Imports and Exports for Scotland, *Ruling Elder*:—From the *Burgh* of *Lauder*, the Right Hon. James Earl of Lauderdale:—From the *Presbytery* of *Selkirk*, Mr John Sked at Lassuden, Mr George Thomson at Melrose, *Ministers*; William Elliot of Borthwickbrae, Esq; *Ruling Elder*:—From the *Burgh* of *Selkirk*, Mr George Leslie, merchant in Edinburgh:—From the *Presbytery* of *Annan*, Mr James Smaill at Dornock, Mr William Hardy Moncrieff

crieff at Annan, *Ministers*; Joseph Norris, Esq; of Newfield, *Ruling Elder*:—From the *Presbytery* of Langholm, Mr John Russell at Cannoby, Mr William Brown at Eskdalemuir, *Ministers*; Mr James Saunders, writer to the Signet, *Ruling Elder*:—From the *Presbytery* of Lochmaben, Mr William Sibbald at Johnston, Mr Gabriel Scott at Kirkpatrick Juxta, Dr William Bryden at Dalton, *Ministers*; Archibald Gordon, Esq; of Halleaths, *Ruling Elder*:—From the *Burgh* of Lochmaben, Mr William Johnston, writer in Edinburgh:—From the *Presbytery* of Penpont, Mr Andrew Yorston at Closeburn, Mr James Wallace at Keir, *Ministers*; Mr John Hyflop in Killyside, *Ruling Elder*:—From the *Burgh* of Sanquhar, Mr John Peat, writer in Edinburgh:—From the *Presbytery* of Dumfries, Mr William Wright at New Abbey, Dr Bryce Johnston at Holywood, Dr David Lamont at Kirkpatrick Durham, *Ministers*; Robert Riddell, Esq; of Glenriddell, *Ruling Elder*:—From the *Presbytery* of Kircudbright, Mr John Johnston at Crossmichael, Mr Philip Morison at Balmaghie, Mr James Thomson at Balmaclellan, *Ministers*; Mr Andrew Muir in Woodside, *Ruling Elder*:—From the *Burgh* of Kircudbright, Horatius Cannan, Esq; of Barley:—From the *Burgh* of New Galloway, Mr Robert Heron, Preacher of the Gospel in Edinburgh:—From the *Presbytery* of Wigton, Dr James Laing at Glasserton, Mr John Steven at Mochrum, *Ministers*; John Gordon of Carleton, Esq; *Ruling Elder*:—From the *Burgh* of Wigton, John Bushby, Esq; Sheriff-Clerk of Dumfries:—From the *Burgh* of Whitburn, John Bushby, Esq; Sheriff-Clerk of Dumfries:—From the *Presbytery* of Stranraer, Mr John MacKenzie at Portpatrick, Mr Henry Blain at Stony Kirk, *Ministers*; Thomas Adair, Esq; of Genoch, *Ruling Elder*:—From the *Burgh* of Stranraer, Mr Thomas Smith, writer in Edinburgh:—From the *Presbytery* of Ayr, Mr William M'Quhae at St Quivox, Mr James Wright at Maybole, Mr William Peebles at Newton upon Ayr, Mr William Thomson at Ochiltree, Mr Archibald Reid at Mauchlin, *Ministers*; John Hamilton, Esq; of Bargeny, Thomas Kennedy, Esq; of Denure, *Ruling Elders*:—From the *Burgh* of Ayr, George Fergusson, Esq; advocate:—From the *Presbytery* of Irvine, Mr Arthur Oughterson at Kilbride, Mr Stephen Rowan at Largs, Dr James Wodrow, at Stevenston, *Ministers*; the Hon. Mr Patrick Boyle of Shewalton, *Ruling Elder*:—From the *Presbytery* of Paisley, Mr Thomas Burns at Renfrew, Mr James Milne at the Abbey Parish, Mr John Brown at Kilmalcolm, Mr Robert

bert Steel of the West Parish of Greenock, *Ministers*; Robert Davidson, Esq; advocate, William Carlyle, Esq; eldest Magistrate of Paisley, *Ruling Elders*:—From the *Presbytery* of Hamilton, Mr John Bower at Old Monkland, Mr John Lockhart at Camnethan, Dr James Meek at Cambuslang, *Ministers*; Professor George Jardine, Glasgow, *Ruling Elder*:—From the *Presbytery* of Lanark, Mr James Scott at Carluke, Mr George Mark at Carnwath, *Ministers*; Professor Archibald Arthur, Glasgow, *Ruling Elder*:—From the *Burgh* of Lanark, John Bannatyne, Esq; of Castlebank:—From the *Presbytery* of Glasgow, Mr Robert Balfour at Glasgow, Mr William Stewart at Cumbernauld, Mr James Lapslie at Campsie, Dr William Porteous at Glasgow, *Ministers*; Mr Robert Cowan, merchant in Glasgow, John Corbet, Esq; of Tolcross, *Ruling Elders*:—From the *City* of Glasgow, Archibald Campbell, Esq; Advocate:—From the *University* of Glasgow, Professor Hugh M'Leod, Glasgow:—From the *Presbytery* of Dumbarton, Mr James Jeffray at Balfour, Mr George Sym at New Kilpatrick, Mr Andrew Whyte at Kilmaronock, *Ministers*; The Lord President, *Ruling Elder*:—From the *Burgh* of Dumbarton, Archibald Campbell, Esq; younger of Succoth:—From the *Presbytery* of Dunoon, Mr Archibald MacLea at Rothsay, Mr Hugh M'Tavish at Inverchargen, *Ministers*; John Lamont of Lamont, Esq; *Ruling Elder*:—From the *Burgh* of Rothsay, John Home, Esq; of Kilduff:—From the *Presbytery* of Kintyre, Mr George Robertson, and Dr John Smith at Campbelltown, Mr Francis Stewart at Jura and Colonsay, *Ministers*; Archibald Macdonald, Esq; of Sanda, *Ruling Elder*:—From the *Burgh* of Campbelltown, William Campbell of Fairfield, Esq;—From the *Presbytery* of Inveraray, Mr Paul Fraser at Inveraray, Mr Lauchlan Maclauchlan at Craignish, *Ministers*; David Campbell of Combie, Esq; *Ruling Elder*:—From the *Presbytery* of Mull, Mr Archibald M'Coll at Tirey, Mr Alexander Fraser at Torosay, *Ministers*; Allan Macdougall, Esq; of Hayfield, *Ruling Elder*:—From the *Presbytery* of Dunkeld, Mr Duncan M'Ara at Fortingall, Mr William Innerarity at Caputh, Mr Archibald Menzies at Dull, Mr Laurence Butter at Lethindy, *Ministers*; David Steuart, Esq; Banker in Edinburgh; John Hagart, Esq; Advocate, *Ruling Elders*:—From the *Presbytery* of Perth, Mr Hary Inglis at Forteviot, Mr George Chapman at Kinfauns, Mr William Garvie at Aberdalgie, Mr John Dowe at Methven, *Ministers*; Mr James Dickson, bookseller in Edinburgh,

Mr Alexander Beatson, writer in Edinburgh, *Ruling Elders* :—From the *Presbytery* of *Stirling*, Mr Robert Ure at Airth, Mr John Watson at Dollar, *Ministers* ; William Morehead, Esq; of Herbertshire, *Ruling Elder* :—From the *Presbytery* of *Auchterarder*, Mr Robert Stirling at Crieff, Mr John Stevenson at Blackford, Mr George Erskine at Monzie, *Ministers* ; the Honourable Henry Erskine, Dean of the Faculty of Advocates, *Ruling Elder* :—From the *Presbytery* of *Dunblane*, Mr James Robertson at Callender, Mr Duncan Stewart at Balquhiddy, *Ministers* ; Professor William Richardson, Glasgow, *Ruling Elder* :—From the *Presbytery* of *Dunfermline*, Mr Robert Liston at Aberdour, Mr Andrew Robertson at Inverkeithing, Mr William Forfar at Saline, *Ministers* ; Sir Charles Preston of Valleyfield, *Ruling Elder* :—From the *Presbytery* of *Kirkaldy*, Mr James Reid at Kinglassie, Mr Thomas Fleming at Kirkaldy, Mr John Scott at Auchtertool, *Ministers* ; Alexander Park, Esq; of Lochore, *Ruling Elder* :—From the *Burgh* of *Kirkaldy*, Mr Andrew Inglis :—From the *Presbytery* of *Cupar*, Mr George Campbell at Cupar, Mr David Wilkie at Culter, Mr James Lister at Auchtermuchty, Mr Andrew Thomson at Balmerino, *Ministers* ; Mr Thomas Campbell in Edinburgh, Mr David Melvill in Ceres, *Ruling Elders* :—From the *Burgh* of *Cupar*, Major John Melvill of Cairnie :—From the *Presbytery* of *St Andrew's*, Dr Joseph M'Cormick, Principal of the United College, Mr William Pairman at Ely, Dr Robert Arnot, Professor of Divinity in St Mary's College, Mr James Brown at Dinno, *Ministers* ; Lieutenant-Colonel Alexander Monypenny of Pitmilny, William Dalgleish, Esq; younger of Scotsraig, *Ruling Elders* :—From the *Burgh* of *St Andrew's*, Dr Andrew Duncan, Professor of Medicine in the University of Edinburgh :—From the *University* of *St Andrew's*, Dr George Hill, Principal of St Mary's College :—From the *Burgh* of *Crail*, Mr Thomas Weir, writer in Edinburgh :—From the *Presbytery* of *Meigle*, Mr Charles Keay at Cupar Angus, Dr James Playfair at Meigle, Mr James Badenoch at Kingoldrum, *Ministers* ; Sir William Ramsay of Banff, Baronet, *Ruling Elders* :—From the *Presbytery* of *Dundee*, Mr John Gellatly at Tealine, Mr John Anderson at Dundee, Mr Thomas Constable at Liff and Benvie, *Ministers* ; Mr Alexander Pitcairn, merchant in Edinburgh, *Ruling Elder* :—From the *Presbytery* of *Aberbrothock* Mr John Carnegie at Inverkeilor, Mr Richard Watson at Arbirlot, *Ministers* ; Mr Thomas

Thomas Milne, merchant in Canongate, *Ruling Elder* :—
 From the *Burgh* of *Aberbrothock*, Mr Thomas Duncan,
 writer in Edinburgh :—From the *Presbytery* of *Brechin*,
 Mr Andrew Gray at Caraldstone, Mr Alexander Mollison
 at Montrose, Mr Andrew Hutton at Edzel, *Ministers* ;
 James Wauchope, Esq; advocate, *Ruling Elder* :—From
 the *Burgh* of *Brechin*, Adam Gillies, Esq; advocate :—From
 the *Presbytery* of *Fordown*, Mr James Walker at Dunnottar,
 Mr William Walker at Eccleisgreig, Mr James Leslie at
 Fordown, *Ministers* ; John Burnet, Esq; advocate, *Ruling
 Elder* :—From the *Presbytery* of *Aberdeen*, Mr James Hogg
 at Skene, Mr James Sheriffs at Aberdeen, Mr George
 Morrison at Banchory-Devenick, Mr George Grant at Old
 Machar, *Ministers* ; William Robertson, Esq; advocate,
 procurator for the Church, John Gordon, Esq; of Craig,
Ruling Elders :—From *King's College Aberdeen*, Mr Roderick
 Macleod, Sub-principal :—From the *Presbytery* of *Kin-
 cardine O'Neal*, Mr William Morrice at Kincardine O'Neal,
 Mr Alexander Henderson at Echt, Mr George Brown at
 Glenmuick, *Ministers* ; William MacDonald, Esq; of
 Rineaton *Ruling Elder* :—From the *Presbytery* of *Alford*,
 Mr Andrew Marshall at Tullinesle, Mr John Gordon at
 Strathdon, Mr Alexander Urquhart at Tough, *Ministers* ;
 James Gordon, Esq; younger of Craig, *Ruling Elder* :—
 From the *Presbytery* of *Garioch*, Mr John Shand at Cha-
 pel of Garioch, Mr Patrick Davidson at Rayne, Mr
 George Skene Keith at Keithhall, and Kinkell, *Ministers* ;
 William Gordon, Esq; younger of Rothney, *Ruling
 Elder* :—From the *Presbytery* of *Deer*, Mr John Lundie at
 Lonmay, Mr William Fraser at Tyrie, Mr James Greig
 at Pitligo, *Ministers* ; Mr John Taylor, clerk to the
 Signet, *Ruling Elder* :—From the *Presbytery* of *Turriff*, Mr
 Robert Ballingall at Forglen, Mr William Dingwall at
 Fergie, *Ministers* ; Mr Coll MacDonald, writer to the
 Signet, *Ruling Elder* :—From the *Presbytery* of *Fordyce*,
 Mr George Donaldson at Ruthven, Mr Walter Chalmers
 at Delford, *Ministers* ; Mr George Andrew, writer in
 Edinburgh, *Ruling Elder* :—From the *Presbytery* of *Strath-
 bogie*, Mr John Cooper at Glas, Mr James Simmie at
 Rothiemay, *Ministers* ; Mr Baron Gordon, *Ruling Elder* :
 —From the *Presbytery* of *Aberlour*, Mr Francis Grant at
 Knockando, Mr George Cruickshank at Rothes, *Ministers* ;
 Isaac Grant, Esq; of Hilton, *Ruling Elder* :—From the
Presbytery of *Abernethy*, Mr Patrick Grant at Duthill, Mr
 John Gordon at Alvie, *Ministers* ; Dr Gregory Grant Phy-
 fician

fician in Edinburgh, *Ruling Elder* :—From the *Presbytery* of *Elgin*, Mr John Reid at Duffus, Mr William Macbaine at Alves, *Ministers* ; Mr Thomas Gordon, writer to the Signet, *Ruling Elder* :—From the *Burgh* of *Elgin*, William Scott, Esq; Banker in Edinburgh :—From the *Presbytery* of *Forres*, Mr John Macdonell at Forres, Mr John Hoyes at Kinloss, *Ministers* ; Charles Hope, Esq; advocate, *Ruling Elder* :—From the *Presbytery* of *Nairn*, Mr Hugh Calder at Croy, Mr John Morison at Nairn, *Ministers* ; Alexander Grant, Esq; writer to the Signet, *Ruling Elder* :—From the *Presbytery* of *Inverness*, Mr William Smith at Petty, Mr John Fraser at Kiltarlity, *Ministers* ; Simon Fraser of Faraline, Esq; *Ruling Elder* :—From the *Presbytery* of *Chanonry*, Mr Alexander Wood at Rosemarkie, Mr Robert Arthur at Kirkmichael and Cullicudden, *Ministers* ; Convener John Lindsay, Edinburgh, *Ruling Elder* :—From the *Presbytery* of *Tain*, Mr John Urquhart at Fearn, Mr Thomas Urquhart at Rosekeen, *Ministers* ; Charles Ross, Esq; advocate *Ruling Elder* :—From the *Burgh* of *Tain*, Robert Colt, Esq; of Auldham :—From the *Presbytery* of *Dingwall*, Mr Angus Bethune at Alness, Mr Charles Calder at Urquhart, *Ministers* ; Mr Kenneth Mackenzie, writer to the Signet, *Ruling Elder* :—From the *Presbytery* of *Abertarph*, Mr Thomas Ross at Kilmanivaig, Mr James Grant at Urquhart, *Ministers* ; William Tait, Esq; advocate, *Ruling Elder* :—From the *Presbytery* of *Sky*, Mr Martin Macpherson at Slate, Mr William Bethune at Diurnish, *Ministers* ; The Right Honourable Alexander Lord Macdonald, *Ruling Elder* :—From the *Presbytery* of *Uist*, Mr George Monro at South Uist, Mr John Macleod at Harris, *Ministers* ; William Macleod-Bannatyne, Esq; of Kaimes, *Ruling Elder* :—From the *Presbytery* of *Lochcarron*, Mr John M'Queen at Applecross, Mr Alexander Downie at Lochalsh, *Ministers* ; Bailie Daniel Miller, merchant in Canongate, *Ruling Elder* :—From the *Presbytery* of *Dornoch*, Mr John Bethune at Dornoch, Mr Walter Ross at Clyne, *Ministers* ; Robert Bruce Aeneas Macleod, Esq; of Cadboll, *Ruling Elder* :—From the *Presbytery* of *Tongue*, Mr Alexander Falconer at Edrachillis, Mr John Thomson at Duirness, *Ministers* ; John Rose, Esq; Sheriff-substitute of Strathnaver, *Ruling Elder* :—From the *Presbytery* of *Caitbness*, Mr William Sutherland at Wick, Mr George Mackenzie at Olrick, *Ministers* ; Sir John Sinclair of Ulbster, Baronet, *Ruling Elder* :—From the *Burgh* of *Wick*, James Horne, Esq; writer to the Signet : From the *Presbytery* of *Kirkwall*,
 Mr

Mr William Anderson at Evie and Rendall, Mr George Barry at Kirkwall and St Olay, *Ministers*; Mr Alexander Youngson, writer in Edinburgh, *Ruling Elder*:—From the *Burgh* of Kirkwall, Malcolm Laing, Esq; Advocate:—From the *Presbytery* of North Isles, Mr William Clouston at Crofs and Burness, Mr James Izett at Westray, *Ministers*; John Grieve, Esq; one of the Commissioners of Excise, *Ruling Elder*:—From the *Presbytery* of Zetland, Mr John Inches at Nesting, Mr Patrick Barclay at Sandsting, *Ministers*; Professor Dalzel, Edinburgh, *Ruling Elder*:—From the *Presbytery* of Edinburgh, Dr Henry Grieve, Dr Andrew Hunter, and Mr William Simpson of Edinburgh, Mr William Paul, St Cuthbert's, Mr Walter Buchanan, Canongate, Mr William Bennet at Duddingston, *Ministers*; William Ramsay, Esq; of Barn-ton, John Gloag, Esq; eldest bailie of the City of Edinburgh, Mr Orlando Hart, late Convener of the Trades, *Ruling Elders*:—From the *City* of Edinburgh, The Right Honourable Thomas Elder, Lord Provost of the City, Mr John Young, Convener of the Trades:—From the *Church* of Campvere, Mr James Likly at Campvere, Robert Allan, Esq; merchant in Edinburgh:—From the *Presbytery* of Linlithgow, Mr John Muir at Falkirk, Mr James Dobie at Linlithgow, Mr John Morton at Borrowstounness, Mr James Wilson at Mid Calder, *Ministers*; Robert Blair, Esq; his Majesty's Solicitor-General, Mr James Taylor ship-master at Queensferry, *Ruling Elders*:—From the *Burgh* of Linlithgow, Robert Blair, Esq; his Majesty's Solicitor-General for Scotland:—From the *Burgh* of Queensferry, Alexander M'Nabb, Esq; Chief Magistrate of the Burgh:—From the *Presbytery* of Biggar, Mr Thomas Gray at Broughton, Mr James Finlayson at Symington, Mr William Watson at Biggar, *Ministers*; John Dickson, Esq; of Culter, *Ruling Elder*:—From the *Presbytery* of Peebles, Dr William Dalgliesh at Peebles, Mr Robert Scott at Innerleithing, *Ministers*; James Montgomery, Esq; advocate, *Ruling Elder*:—From the *Burgh* of Peebles, Andrew Hamilton of Spittlehaugh, Esq; writer to the Signet:—From the *Presbytery* of Dalkeith, Dr Alexander Carlyle at Inveresk, Mr Thomas M'Courtly at Penny-cuick, Mr Archibald Syngers at Fala, *Ministers*; the Lord Advocate for Scotland, *Ruling Elder*:—From the *Presbytery* of Haddington, Mr Patrick Carfrae at Morham, Mr Henry Sangster at Humble, Mr Henry David Hill at North Berwick, *Ministers*; John Hamilton, Esq; of Pen-caitland, *Ruling Elder*:—From the *Burgh* of Haddington,

Mr Thomas Pringle, one of the present bailies:—From the *Presbytery of Dunbar*, Mr John Ewan at Whittingham, Mr John Harvie at Innerwick, *Minister*; John Anderson of Windygowl, Esq; *Ruling Elder*:—And the General Assembly added thereto Sir Henry Moncreiff Wellwood, one of the Ministers of St Cuthbert's, in place of the Moderator:—and also added all those whose commissions had been rejected on account of informality, *viz.* from the *Burgh of Inveraray*, Humphrey Trawfurd Campbell, Esq; younger of Ashnith:—And from the *Burgh of North Berwick*, Sir Hew Hamilton Dalrymple, Bart. of North Berwick, TO BE COMMISSIONERS of this General Assembly, to the effect after mentioned; with power to the said Commissioners, or their quorum, which is hereby declared to be any thirty-one of the said Commissioners, whereof twenty-one are always to be ministers, to meet and convene within the Assembly-house at Edinburgh, the first day after the dissolution of this Assembly, at ten of the clock in the forenoon; and thereafter, the second Wednesday of August, third Wednesday of November, and the first Wednesday of March next to come, and oftener, when and where they shall think fit and convenient, with power to the said Commissioners to chuse their own Moderator: And likewise, the General Assembly fully empowers their said Commissioners, or their quorum above mentioned, to cognosce and finally determine, as they shall see cause, in every matter referred, or that shall be referred to them, by an act or order of this Assembly; and to do every thing contained in, and conform to the instructions given or to be given by this Assembly; and to advert to the interest of the Church on every occasion, that the Church, and present establishment thereof, do not suffer or sustain any prejudice which they can prevent, as they will be answerable: Provided always, that this general clause be not extended to particular affairs or processes before Synods or Presbyteries, that are not of universal concern to, or influence upon the whole Church. And it is hereby appointed, that no private processes be determined, except at the four stated diets; and what shall be determined at one diet of the Commission, with relation to private causes, shall be unalterable by any other diet thereof, and shall stand and continue in force till disapproved of by the General Assembly. And the Assembly renews the instructions given by the General Assembly in the year one thousand seven hundred and seventeen to their Commission, and appoints

appoints the same to stand in full force as instructions to the Commissioners before named, and to be observed by them in all points, as if the same were specially here inserted; and that they enquire into the publishing and spreading of books and pamphlets, tending towards the promoting of opinions of whatever kind, inconsistent with our *Confession of Faith*; and that the recommenders of such books and pamphlets, or the errors therein contained, whether by word, writ, or print, be called before the said Commission, to answer for the same. And further, the said Commission is hereby empowered to receive any references and appeals that shall be made to them from Synods, in matters of doctrine, and ripen such affairs for the next General Assembly; and to contribute what they can to the suppressing of vice and immorality, and give all needful advice and assistance to Synods and Presbyteries, upon application to them for that end: Likewise, to take care that the impressions of the *Holy Scriptures*, the *Confession of Faith*, and *Catechisms*, and such books as are authorised by this Church, relating to the doctrine, worship, discipline and government thereof, be correct; and give directions about printing the same. And the Commissioners are appointed and empowered to keep a correspondence with the Committee for reformation of the Highlands and Islands, for suppressing Popery and superstition, and for promoting the knowledge of true religion, and carrying on a reformation in these parts, and give assistance and concurrence therein; and, if, need be, to apply to the Government for a proper remedy and speedy redress. And the said Commissioners are hereby strictly prohibited and discharged to meddle in any other matters than what are committed and referred to them as above mentioned: And, in all their actings, they are to proceed according to the acts and constitution of this Church, and to do nothing contrary thereto, or to the prejudice of the same; declaring, that, in and for all their actings, they shall be accountable to, and censurable by the next General Assembly, as they shall see cause. And the General Assembly appoints the said Commissioners particularly to observe the acts of the General Assemblies one thousand seven hundred and twelve, and one thousand seven hundred and nineteen, respecting the application of the public money; which two acts are printed among the acts of Assembly one thousand seven hundred and sixty-one. And this Commission is to continue and endure
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until another Commission be appointed; and members are required to attend the diets of the said Commission; and absents therefrom are ordered to be noticed, according to the 17th act of the General Assembly held in the year one thousand seven hundred and six. And for the better securing of a quorum, and attendance of members on the Commission, the General Assembly prohibits the Presbytery of Edinburgh, or any other Presbytery within twelve miles thereof, to meet on any of the days or weeks appointed for the meeting of this Commission; and such of the members of these Presbyteries as are on the Commission, are required, all of them to give attendance on the diets thereof; and the Presbyteries at a greater distance, who have four or more members on the Commission, are to take care, that at least two of them attend each diet of the same: And the General Assembly appoint their Commission, at their first meeting, to discuss as many of the causes and questions relative to the settlement of vacant churches, which are or shall be referred to them by the Assembly, as they can overtake. And it is further provided, that when any Presbytery or Synod of this Church shall decline to comply with the sentence of the Commission, or to give the same a full execution, in that case the Commission is hereby prohibited to execute the same, by appointing any such correspondent meeting, as has been some time the practice, but shall allow the same to lie over to the ensuing Assembly, to which such Presbyteries or Synods shall be answerable for such their conduct, and are hereby appointed to send up with their Commissioners their reasons for the same. And that in passing their sentences, and in ordering the execution of the same, they strictly observe the 12th act of the Assembly one thousand seven hundred and thirty-six.

VI.

 VI.

COMMISSION to some Ministers and Ruling Elders, for the Reformation of the Highlands and Islands of Scotland, and for managing his Majesty's Royal Bounty for that end.

Edinburgh, May 25. 1793. Sess. 9.

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY did, and hereby do nominate and appoint the Reverend Dr THOMAS HARDY, one of the ministers of the city, and *Regius* Professor of Divinity and Church History in the University of Edinburgh, their Moderator, all the ministers who are members of the Presbytery of Edinburgh, Dr Walter Anderson at Churnside, Mr Robert Turnbull at Sprouston, Mr David Brown at Crailing, Mr Thomas Murray at Channelkirk, Mr William Hardy-Moncrieff at Annan, Mr John Russell at Cannoby, Mr William Sibbald at Johnston, Mr Andrew Yorston at Closeburn, Dr Bryce Johnston at Holywood, Mr John Johnston at Crossmichael, Mr John Mackenzie at Portpatrick, Mr William Peebles at Newton upon Ayr, Dr James Wodrow at Stevenston, Mr Thomas Burns at Renfrew, Mr John Lockhart at Cambusnethan, Dr William Porteous at Glasgow, Mr James Jeffray at Balfron, Mr Hugh M'Tavish at Inverchaoln, Dr John Smith at Campbeltown, Mr Paul Frazer at Inveraray, Mr Alexander Frazer at Torosay, Mr William Innerarity at Caputh, Mr Harry Inglis at Forteviot, Mr John Watson at Dollar, Mr George Erskine at Monzie, Mr James Robertson at Callendar, Mr Robert Litton at Aberdour, Mr Thomas Fleming at Kirkaldy, Mr George Campbell at Cupar, Principal M'Cormick, Dr George Hill, Dr James Playfair at Meigle, Mr John Anderson at Dundee, Mr Richard Watson at Arbirlot, Mr Andrew Gray at Caraldstone, Mr

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James Walker at Dunnottar, Mr James Hogg at Skene, Mr George Grant at Old Machar, Mr Alexander Henderson at Echt, Mr John Gordon at Strathdon, Mr Patrick Davidson at Rayne, Mr John Lundie at Lonmay, Mr Robert Ballingal at Forglen, Mr George Donaldson at Rathven, Mr John Cooper at Glasf, Mr Francis Grant at Knockando, Mr Patrick Grant at Duthill, Mr John Reid at Duffus, Mr John Macdonnell at Forres, Mr John Morrison at Nairn, Mr John Frazer at Kiltarlity, Mr Alexander Wood at Rosemarkie, Mr John Urquhart at Fearn, Mr Angus Bethune at Alnesh, Mr James Grant at Urquhart, Mr John M'Leod at Harris, Mr John M'Queen at Applecrofs, Mr Walter Ross at Clyne, Mr John Thomson at Duirness, Mr William Shepherd at Wick, Mr George Barry at Kirkwall, Mr James Izett at Westray, Mr Patrick Barclay at Sandsting, Mr John Muir at Falkirk, Mr William Watson at Biggar, Mr Robert Scott at Innerleithen, Dr Alexander Carlyle at Inveresk, Mr Henry-David Hill at North Berwick, Mr John Harvie at Innerwick, *Ministers*; Matthew Sandilands, Esq; John Macfarlan, Esq; Advocate, The Earl of Lauderdale, Mr John Sked at Lasudden, Mr George Leslie, merchant, Edinburgh, Joseph Norris, Esq; of Newfield, Mr James Saunders, writer to the Signet, Mr William Johnston, writer, Edinburgh, Mr John Peat, writer, Edinburgh, Horatius Cannan, Esq; of Barley, John Gordon, Esq; of Carleton, John Bushby, Esq; Thomas Adair, Esq; of Genoch, Mr Thomas Smith writer, George Fergusson, Esq; Advocate, Robert Davidson, Esq; Advocate, Archibald Campbell, Esq; Advocate, The Lord President, Archibald Campbell, Esq; younger of Succoth, John Lamont of Lamont, Esq; Archibald Macdonald, Esq; of Sanda, David Campbell of Combie, Esq; Allan Macdougall, Esq; of Hayfield, John Hagart, Esq; Advocate, Mr James Dickson, bookseller, Edinburgh, Mr Alexander Beatson writer, the Dean of Faculty, Professor William Richardson, Glasgow, Alexander Park, Esq; of Lochore, Major John Melvil of Cairnie, William Dalgliesh, Esq; younger of Scotsraig, Dr Andrew Duncan, Mr Thomas Weir, writer, Sir William Ramsay of Banff, Baronet, Mr Alexander Pitcairn, merchant, Edinburgh, Mr Thomas Milne, merchant, Canongate, Mr Thomas Duncan, writer, Edinburgh, James Wachope, Esq; Advocate, Adam Gillies, Esq; Advocate, John Burnet, Esq; Advocate, the Procurator, John Gordon, Esq; of Craig, William Macdonald, Esq; of Reneaton, James Gordon,

Gordon, Esq; younger, of Craig, William Gordon, Esq; younger, of Rothney, Mr John Taylor, clerk to the Signet, Mr Coll Macdonald, clerk to the Signet, Mr George Andrew, writer, Edinburgh, Mr Baron Gordon, Isaac Grant, Esq; of Hilton, Dr Gregory Grant, Mr Thomas Gordon, writer to the Signet, William Scott, Esq; banker, Charles Hope, Esq; Advocate, Mr Alexander Grant, writer to the Signet, Convener John Lindsay, Edinburgh, Charles Ross, Esq; Advocate, Mr Kenneth Mackenzie, writer to the Signet, William Tait, Esq; Advocate, Lord Macdonald, William Macleod-Bannatyne, Esq; Bailie Daniel Miller, Sir John Sinclair, Baronet, Mr James Horne, writer to the Signet, Mr Alexander Youngson writer, Malcolm Laing, Esq; Advocate, Commissioner Grieve, Professor Dalziel, The Lord Provost of Edinburgh, Convener John Young, Mr Robert Allan merchant, The Solicitor General, John Dickson, Esq; Advocate, James Montgomery, Esq; Advocate, Andrew Hamilton, Esq; The Lord Advocate, *Ruling Elders*; TO BE A COMMITTEE of this Assembly, for the reformation of the Highlands and Islands of Scotland, for promoting the knowledge of true religion, suppressing Popery and profaneness, and for managing the Royal Bounty for these ends, according to, and in terms of His Majesty's grant to this Assembly. In prosecution of which purposes, the Committee are to appoint Preachers and Catechists, to go to such places as they shall find, upon due information, to be the most proper, according to His Majesty's design, expressed in His warrant; and, in so doing, that they have particular regard to such parishes, in South Uist, Small Isles, Glenco, Harris, the countries of Moidart, Glengary, and Lochaber, and the other parishes of the Synods of Glenelg and Argyle, which the Committee shall find, by reason of the vast extent, by the prevalency of Popery and ignorance, and other unhappy circumstances, to be in the greatest distress: And they shall take care, that the persons they employ be certified, and found, upon due trial, to be properly qualified for these respective offices, of good abilities for the same, of a pious life and conversation; prudent, of undoubted loyalty to his Majesty, and of competent skill in the principles of Divinity, and particularly in Popish controversies: Such Preachers and Catechists being hereby appointed to be subject to, and under the inspection of the Presbyteries of the bounds to which they are sent, who are to take care that the orders of the Committee be duly observed by them.

them. And the Preachers are also appointed to catechise, and both they and the Catechists to instruct the people from house to house, and to visit the sick; and, in all their labour among the people, to be careful to teach them the principles and duties of the true Christian Protestant religion, and the obligations they are under to duty and loyalty to our Sovereign King George, and obedience to the laws: And the Committee are empowered to give them such instructions, as to their work and behaviour, as they shall judge meet; which instructions the Preachers and Catechists are hereby ordered to obey. The General Assembly do further appoint the said Committee, to have a particular regard in their proceedings, to the regulations agreed upon by the Committee of the Assembly for managing the Royal Bounty, on the 30th of September 1730, approved by frequent Assemblies: And to take care that Presbyteries, and others concerned, observe the same, which they are hereby ordered to do: Particularly, the Assembly ordains the several Presbyteries to insert in their registers, the Committee's appointments of the designations, salaries, and stations of the several missionaries and to have an exact regard thereto, in all the letters they shall write about the said missionaries, and in giving of certificates to them; and to direct all their letters, concerning missionaries in their bounds, only to the Moderator of the Committee; which letters shall be signed, at the appointment of the Presbytery, by the Moderator or Clerk thereof: And the Assembly does discharge any payment to be made of the salaries of the missionaries, except upon receipts from the missionaries themselves, and upon certificates from the Presbyteries, bearing, That they have served for the time mentioned in the receipts; and that every Catechist who receives a salary from the Royal Bounty, on condition that the parishioners or gentlemen of the district shall pay a certain sum in aid of such salary, shall insert, in the body of his receipt to the Cashier, a declaration that he has received the particular sum specified; and that the attestation of the Presbytery shall in like manner bear, that the Catechist has received the stipulated sum which the Committee make the condition of his appointment; it being understood by this resolution, that the several stations, with regard to which such conditions were originally made by the Committee, when no such declaration of the Catechist, or attestation of the Presbytery, as is now proposed, is received by the Cashier, shall be afterwards suppressed by the Committee, though the Catechist shall, notwithstanding,

standing, receive the salary for the time he is certified to have performed his duty. That a journal of the itinerant's labours in the ministry, of the mission committed to him, be written on the back of the Presbytery's certificate, and signed by him, as the ground on which the Presbytery have granted him said certificate. The General Assembly do also empower the said Committee to apply, for the purposes above mentioned, what may remain of the last year's Royal Bounty not disposed of, by reason of any of the missionaries not fulfilling the appointments laid upon them ; and that they are to keep a register of their proceedings, and likewise distinct books of accounts, how the foresaid money is bestowed, which shall be patent to any concerned, who please to inspect the same. Of the persons above named, as members of this Committee, five are declared to be a quorum, whereof three are to be ministers. But it is hereby appointed, That at the quarterly meeting of the Committee, in which the scheme or establishment of missionaries for the ensuing year is to be approved and determined, not less than fourteen shall be the quorum, whereof nine shall be ministers ; and the said Committee are appointed to have their first general meeting at Edinburgh, the first lawful day after the adjournment of the first of the stated diets of the Commission of the General Assembly ; their second meeting (which is for fixing the annual scheme), upon the second Thursday of July, with power to those members who shall then be present, to adjourn ; and their other two general meetings the first lawful days after the stated meetings of the Commission of the General Assembly, in November and March, within the Assembly ayle, at ten of the clock in the forenoon, except that day shall fall to be Saturday, and then the meeting shall be upon Monday next thereafter, at the said hour ; with power to the said Committee to adjourn themselves to such times and places as they shall find most needful and convenient : And they are to keep a correspondence with the Commission of the General Assembly, and the Society for propagating Christian Knowledge, and their Committee of Directors, and to take their advice and assistance ; and also to correspond with the Synods and Presbyteries concerned. They are likewise instructed and empowered, as they shall see cause, to apply to the Government, or any Magistrate, for assistance and support in carrying on the design of the Commission now given to them. And the General Assembly do appoint Mr William Robertson, Advocate, Procurator for the Church, and Receiver of the foresaid Royal

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Bounty, to pay out the same, as he shall be directed and ordered by the foresaid Committee, and according to their rules. And the said Committee are appointed to examine the accounts of the distribution of the Royal Bounty, and lay the same before the Lords Commissioners of His Majesty's Treasury, or the Barons of his Majesty's Court of Exchequer, and to report their diligence to the General Assembly, to whom they are to be accountable. And it is agreed, That no person once employed and insert in the scheme, shall be struck out thereof for that year, but by the quorum of at least fourteen, whereof nine to be ministers; and in case any complaint shall be made against any of them on the scheme, it shall not be determined the first ordinary meeting that the same is offered, but it shall lie on the table till another meeting; and in the meantime the person complained of, and the Presbytery of the bounds wherein he officiates, shall be acquainted of such complaint, and those concerned be required to send to the said Committee a just account of the matter, against the next meeting. And it is farther appointed, That after the yearly scheme of missionaries on the Royal Bounty is settled in manner above directed, and notice thereof given by letters to the Presbyteries concerned, such Presbyteries shall send up to the said Committee their answer to these letters, at farthest with their Commissioners to the General Assembly, if the same be not done sooner; and that the Committee, at their first meeting after the General Assembly, shall endeavour to complete the next year's scheme themselves; and if they cannot complete it, they shall name a sub-committee of their number for that purpose, who are to lay their draught thereof before a subsequent meeting, which is appointed to meet as soon after the rising of the Assembly as possible. And empowered the Committee, at their first meeting, to reject any petition for a new station in case they shall find sufficient objections against it; and that the said Committee, in making up the scheme of missionaries, &c. do not exceed the sum in the grant.



VII.

Edinburgh, May 27. 1793. *Sess. ult.*

THE Report of the Committee appointed to class returns to Overtures was called for, given in, and read.—The Assembly delayed the consideration of the alterations proposed by some Presbyteries; and in the mean time agreed, to re-transmit the New Overture respecting the Licensing of Probationers; and also the Overture respecting the annexation and suppression of parishes; with a renewal of the recommendation to such Presbyteries as have sent no returns to send them without further delay.

New Overture respecting the Licensing of Probationers.

Edinburgh, May 25. 1792. *Sess. 8.*

THE General Assembly having taken under their serious consideration, the great danger to which the interests of Religion and of this Church may be exposed, by licensing any to preach the Gospel, who are not duly qualified for that important trust, do hereby enact, and ordain, That, in all time coming, the following regulations shall be strictly observed:

I. It is hereby enacted, That no Student shall be entered upon the Roll of any Professor of Divinity, unless he shall produce to the said Professor a certificate from the Minister of the parish in which he has his usual residence; or in his absence, or during a vacancy in said parish, from some neighbouring Minister, bearing, that his character is suitable to his views; together with a diploma of Master of Arts, or certificates from the several Professors of Philosophy, under whom he hath studied, from which it may be clearly ascertained, that
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in some University or Universities, he hath gone through a full course of Philosophy, in some winter-sessions of College preceding that in which the certificates are produced.

II. The General Assembly do likewise hereby ordain, That all Students who have been inrolled by Professors of Divinity, in the manner prescribed by this act, shall continue to prosecute the study of Divinity, for the term of six Sessions: Provided always, That if any Student hath given regular attendance in the Divinity Hall, during three Sessions, his Course shall be considered as completed in four Sessions; and that if he hath given regular attendance in the Hall during two Sessions, his Course shall be considered as completed in five Sessions. And the Assembly do farther ordain, that in each of these cases, Students shall be inrolled by the Professors during the several Sessions of their respective Courses, and deliver in the Divinity Hall, in the manner herein afterwards provided, an Exegesis in Latin, on some controverted Head in Divinity, a Homily in English, an Exercise and Addition, a Lecture on some large portion of Scripture, and a popular Sermon, together with such other Exercises as the Professors shall think proper to prescribe. And the Assembly farther enact, and declare, That a Student is entitled to apply to the Professor for his certificates, that he may be proposed for trials, and that the preliminary steps may be taken by the Presbytery, during the currency of the last Session of his Course, as above described; with this limitation, that if the said last Session is to be claimed as a Session of regular attendance, he shall, toward the conclusion thereof, obtain a new certificate of his attendance during its currency, and produce the same to the Presbytery, or Synod.

III. Professors of Divinity are required to attend, as much as circumstances may permit, to the conduct of such Students as are under their care, and, as far as they find it practicable, to insist that every Student shall deliver his first discourse some time during his second Session, at the latest, and the remainder of his Discourses at such periods as may enable him to deliver the whole of them before the end of January, of the last Session of his Course.

IV.

IV. When a Student is proposed to any Presbytery, in order to be taken upon trials, the Presbytery shall be alone, and the motion for that purpose shall lie upon the table till their next ordinary meeting. In the mean time, the Presbytery shall appoint the Member by whom the Student has been proposed, to lay before the said meeting the certificate, or certificates in favour of the Student, that are specified in the third paragraph of the fifth section of this Act; to desire him to attend the same; and to inform him, that, previously to the meeting, he ought, as far as circumstances may permit, to wait on such Ministers of the Presbytery as have not formerly had an opportunity of conversing with him in private.

V. When the time appointed for considering the motion is arrived, the Presbytery shall strictly observe the following regulations.

1st, The Presbytery shall be alone, while they are employed in discussing the several preliminaries respecting Students who are proposed for trials.

2^d, They shall require satisfying evidence, that every Student who is proposed for that purpose, has completed the twenty-first year of his age.

3^d, No Student shall be admitted to trials, unless he produces to the Presbytery, a certificate or certificates from the Professor or Professors of Divinity, under whose tuition he hath studied, bearing, that he hath prosecuted his studies, and delivered his Discourses, in the manner prescribed by this act; and that his conduct, as far as consists with the knowledge of the said Professor, or Professors, has been in every respect suitable to his views in life. And the General Assembly do likewise hereby enact, That the Presbytery shall record at full length the said certificate, or certificates, in their minutes: And it is hereby enacted and declared, That the Student having lodged such certificate, or certificates, shall be entitled to obtain extracts of the same, if demanded.

4th, No Presbytery shall receive any Student upon trials, unless they are satisfied that he is of good report; sound in his principles; pious, sober, grave, and prudent, in his behaviour; of a peaceable disposition; and well affected to the happy establishment in this kingdom, both in Church and State. And, that the Presbytery may proceed with all due caution, in a matter of such peculiar importance, they shall not agree to the motion in behalf of the Student, unless his residence, during the

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year preceding, has been chiefly within their bounds; or he shall produce sufficient testimonials from the Presbytery, in whose bounds his residence has chiefly been, during that term, bearing, that his character is such as is described in the immediately preceding sentence of this paragraph, and recommending him, in these respects, to the Presbytery before whom the proposal is made, as a proper person to be entered upon trials.

5th, The Presbytery shall not agree to the motion in favour of the Student, unless they are satisfied, that he has made a competent degree of proficiency in those several branches of knowledge, which are necessary to enable him to be an useful Preacher of the Gospel. And the General Assembly ordain, that the Presbytery, in order to procure full information in this respect, shall examine the Student, strictly, and privately, on his knowledge of the Greek and Latin languages, and of Philosophy and Theology.

6th, If after these preliminary steps have been taken, the Presbytery shall be of opinion, that the Student is duly qualified in these several particulars, they shall record this opinion in their minutes, and order their clerk to write letters to the several Presbyteries within the bounds of the Provincial Synod, two kalendar months at least before the meeting of the same, informing them of the Presbytery's intention to take the Student upon Public Trials, and bearing, that the certificate, or certificates in his favour, which are required by this act, have been regularly laid before them. But it is hereby provided, That within the bounds of such Synods as meet only once a-year, a Student may be entitled to have these circular letters written half a-year sooner than would be otherwise competent.

VI. The General Assembly do likewise hereby enact and declare, That, at the request of the Student, it shall be competent to any Presbytery to transfer the receiving of the Public trials, or any part thereof, certifying to the Presbytery to which the transference is to be made, that the various preliminary steps have been taken according to the directions of this act; and that such parts of the public and private trials as have been already gone through, have been received with approbation.

VII. If a Student hath studied, either in whole or in part, in Protestant Universities which are not within the bounds of this Church, he shall, when he is proposed to any Presbytery for trials, be required to produce satisfying

ing testimonials from the Professors of Divinity in said Universities; and the time which these Professors shall certify to have been employed by him in studying Divinity under their tuition, shall be computed in the same manner as if he had prosecuted his studies in any of the Universities within the bounds of this Church. But it is hereby provided, That no Student, in such circumstances, shall be admitted even to those private trials which are appointed to be taken before the writing of the circular letters, sooner than six kalendar months after his arrival in Scotland.

VIII. The General Assembly ordain, That if a Presbytery propose to take a Student upon public trials, and have, with that view, written the circular letters, as is herein required, public intimation thereof shall be made at some diet of the next meeting of the Provincial Synod, which shall not be the last diet thereof: And the Presbytery clerk is hereby required to transmit to the Synod clerk an extract of the certificate, or certificates, laid before the Presbytery, in favour of the Student, in order that the same may be produced at this diet of the Synod. And it is likewise hereby ordained, That at some subsequent diet of the Synod, particular enquiry shall be made, whether any of the Members of the Court has any objection to offer against the Student being entered upon public trials: And that the Synod then taking into consideration the extract produced, and the whole of the case, shall judge of the expediency of allowing the Presbytery to admit the student on trials: Or if in any case the Presbytery clerk shall fail to transmit the extracts of the certificates above mentioned, the Student may produce to the Synod, by himself or by any Member of the Court, the extract of the same, which by this act he is entitled to obtain.

IX. If the Synod shall allow the Student to be taken upon public trials, the Presbytery shall proceed therein with all convenient speed; and the Assembly appoint the following trials to be taken of the Student, and in the order herein mentioned: 1st, Catechetic trials on Divinity, Chronology, and Church History; 2^d, A trial on the Hebrew and Greek languages; 3^d, An Exegesis in Latin on some controverted Head in Divinity; 4th, A Homily in English; 5th, An Exercise and Addition;
6th,

6th, A Lecture on some large portion of Scripture;
 7th, A popular Sermon; it being understood, that if the Presbytery see cause, they may examine the Student upon the subject of these several Discourses.

X. The Student having gone through the several trials, which are mentioned in the immediately preceding section of this act, the Presbytery are ordained to proceed in the following order:

1st, They shall, deliberately and seriously, take a conjunct view of the whole trials; and if they shall be of opinion, that the Student is not properly qualified to perform the duties incumbent on a Preacher of the Gospel, they shall, by no means, grant him a Licence, in his present circumstances.

2d, If, upon this review of the trials, the Presbytery are fully satisfied therewith, they shall record this opinion in their minutes.

3d, The Presbytery shall then propose to the Student the questions that are appointed to be put to all who pass Trials by act 10th Assembly 1711, and require him to subscribe the *Formula* which is prescribed by the said act. And the General Assembly strictly prohibit all Presbyteries from licensing any Student to preach the Gospel, who shall not give explicit and satisfying answers to these questions, and subscribe the said *Formula*.

4th, The Presbytery shall order the act of Assembly 1759, against Simoniackal practices, to be read to the Student in their presence.

Lastly, The Presbytery shall appoint their Moderator to licence the Student to preach the Gospel, and order their clerk to furnish him with an extract of his licence.

XI. For the better observance of this act, the General Assembly ordain, 1st, That it shall be printed among their other printed acts; 2d, That it shall be printed by itself, in some convenient form; 3d, That a copy of this separate edition shall be transmitted to each Professor of Divinity in the Universities of Scotland; and that the said Professors shall read the same in their respective Halls, once at least during every Session, and at such times as they have reason to expect the attendance of the greatest number of Students for that Session; and, lastly, That a copy of the same edition

edition shall likewise be transmitted to the clerks of each Synod, and Presbytery, within the bounds of this Church, and that the said clerks shall keep the same along with their minutes, and bring it up to each meeting of their respective Courts, for the use of the Members.

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VIII.

Edinburgh, May 28. 1792. *Sess. ult.*

THE ASSEMBLY recommends to Presbyteries to take the following Overture into consideration at an early diet, and send up their Opinions upon the same to next Assembly.

Overture respecting the annexation and suppression of Parishes.

THAT the Assembly, in all proposed cases of annexation and suppression, do enjoin Presbyteries to communicate to the Synod of the bounds the proposal that is made; that although it does not appear to them proper for the Church to give any opposition, it shall not be competent for them to express their consent to the proposed annexation and suppression, either by a deliverance in their minutes, or at the bar of the Court of Teinds, until they have obtained the consent of the Synod of the bounds; and further, that when they resolve to give opposition to any proposed annexation or suppression, they shall communicate their resolution, together with the grounds of their opposition, and the directions which they have given thereanent to the Synod of the bounds.

IX.

**Act appointing the Diet of the next
General Assembly.***Edinburgh, May 27. 1793. Sess. ult.*

THE next GENERAL ASSEMBLY of this National Church is appointed to be held within the New Church Ayle of Edinburgh, on Thursday the 15th day of May, 1794.

*Extracted from the Records of the General Assembly, by***ANDREW DALZEL, Cl. Eccl. Scot.**

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Assembly, presented to them by Mr. Hunter.

III. The General Assembly's Answer to the King's most
gracious Letter.

IV. The General Assembly's Address to His Majesty
at the opening of the present Year.

V. Commission of the General Assembly to certain
Members and Reading Editors, for digesting
Matters referred to them.

VI. Commission to James Hunter and Reading Editors, for
the Reformation of the Highlands and Islands of
Scotland, and for managing his Majesty's Revenue
Reform for that end.

VII. Mr. Hunter's Answer to the Letter of the
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VIII. Order relating to the Association and Support
of the Poor.

IX. Act appointing the day of next General Assembly.

APPENDIX.

ABRIDGMENT

OF THE

ACTINGS and PROCEEDINGS of the GENERAL ASSEMBLY of the CHURCH OF SCOTLAND, held at Edinburgh in the year 1793, which are not printed at full length.

Thursday, May 16. 1793. Sess. I.

AFTER Sermon by the Reverend Dr ANDREW HUNTER, one of the Ministers of the City, and Professor of Divinity in the University of Edinburgh, Moderator of the last General Assembly, the Ministers and Ruling Elders convened in the Assembly-house in the usual manner: And, after prayer by the said Dr Andrew Hunter, the Reverend Dr THOMAS HARDY, one of the Ministers of the City, and *Regius* Professor of Divinity and Church History in the University of Edinburgh, being unanimously chosen Moderator, he, at the Assembly's desire, took the Chair.

The KING's Commission to the Right Honourable DAVID Earl See Printed Acts, of LEVEN, to represent his Majesty's Royal Person, read, and No. I. ordered to be recorded.

The King's most gracious Letter to this Assembly, read, and or- and No. II. dered to be recorded.

The Commissioner's speech at the opening of the Assembly, and the Moderator's speech in return thereto.

A Committee named for answering the King's most gracious Letter.

A dutiful Address to his Majesty on the subject of the present war; agreed to, and a Committee appointed to prepare the same.

A Committee named for revising the Commissions to the Members of this Assembly, censuring absents from the diets thereof, naming Ministers to preach before his Grace the King's Commissioner, and receiving Lists of Probationers in the several Presbyteries, in order to their being recorded.

A Committee for Overtures named.

A Committee for bills, references, and appeals, named.

Adjournment.

Friday, May 17. 1793. Sess. 2.

Sederunt.

New Commissions produced.

A diet spent in prayer.

Act VII. of the Assembly 1718, for the better dispatch of the business of the Assembly, read, and the observation thereof enjoined.

Ministers named to preach before his Grace the Commissioner.

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The

ABRIDGMENT. 1793.

The Committee for revising Commissions appointed to meet.
The Committees for overtures and bills appointed to meet.
Adjournment.

Saturday, May 18. 1793. Sess. 3.

Sederunt.

New Commissions produced.

See Printed Acts,
No. III.

The draught of the answer to the King's most gracious Letter to this Assembly being brought in and approved, his Grace the Commissioner, at the Assembly's request, undertook to transmit the same to his Majesty.

and No. IV.

The draught of a dutiful address to his Majesty, on the subject of the present war, being brought in and approved, his Grace the Commissioner, at the Assembly's request, likewise undertook to transmit the same to his Majesty.

The report of the Committee for Overtures given in and read.

It was objected to the Commission from the Presbytery of Dalkeith, "That the election, and resolution to elect, are both "on the same day, viz. the 2d of April 1793." A paper, purporting to be the Minutes of the Presbytery of Dalkeith, being produced and read; and it appearing to the House, that the resolution to elect was entered into the Minutes on the 5th of February 1793, and not on the 2d of April, as the Commission bore; the Assembly, after reasoning, agreed, without a vote, to sustain the said Commission.

It was objected to the Commission from the Burgh of Inveraray, "That the attestation of the Kirk-session is signed "Paul "Frazer, Minister," instead of "Moderator." The Assembly sustained the objection, and rejected the Commission.

The roll of causes transmitted by the Committee for bills, called for, produced, and read.

Agreed to take up the cause of the Schoolmaster of Dornoch on Monday, the cause against Mr Shepherd at Daviot on Wednesday, and the cause against Mr Macnaught at Girthon on Thursday next.

A Committee named to revise the actings and proceedings of the Commission of the last General Assembly.

A Committee named to revise the actings and proceedings of the Committee appointed by last Assembly for managing the Royal Bounty, for reformation of the Highlands and Islands.

The Committee for overtures appointed to meet this evening, and empowered to receive from the several Members, any instructions given to them by the respective Synods or Presbyteries, class the matters therein contained, and prepare overtures thereon to the Assembly, and to receive and consider any accounts that shall be given them of the state of the Church in the North Highlands, particularly concerning the growth of Popery and superstition, and prepare overtures for preventing and suppressing thereof.

The Committee of bills appointed to meet on Monday next at eleven o'clock.

Adjournment.

Monday,

ABRIDGMENT. 1793.

Monday, May 20. 1793. Sess. 4.

Sederunt.

New Commissions produced.

The Report of the Committee for overtures called for, given in, and read.

It was objected to the Commission from the Burgh of Elgin, "That there are wanting in the attestation of the Kirk session the following words, *and that he has signed the formula prescribed by the 11th Act of Assembly 1694.*" The Assembly ordered this Commission to lie on the table, till the Member appear to claim his seat.

An overture from the Synod of Glasgow and Ayr, respecting the more accurate and better printing of the common editions of the Bible, was read, and ordered to lie on the table till to-morrow.

Report of the Committee for bills called for, produced, and read.

Synod-books called for.

Committees appointed to revise the Synod-books of Merse and Teviotdale :—Glasgow and Ayr :—Angus and Mearns :—and Lothian and Tweeddale.

A Committee named to audite and revise the accounts of the Procurator and Agent for the Church, and other public accounts, consider the state of the Church's public money, and prepare overtures about the same.

Causes fixed for hearing.

A complaint and appeal, at the instance of Mr William Hardy Moncrieff, Minister of Annan, against a sentence of the Synod of Dumfries, of date the 16th October last, in the cause respecting Mr James Halliday, Schoolmaster elect of the parish of Dornoch, heard : The Assembly, upon a motion made, unanimously affirmed the sentence of the Synod of Dumfries, reversing the sentence of the Presbytery of Annan, finding, that Mr Halliday is disqualified, by his contumacy for the office of Schoolmaster of the Parish of Dornoch : But, in respect, that he has not been legally examined by the Presbytery of Annan, the Assembly remitted to the said Presbytery to take trial of Mr Halliday's qualifications for the said office, ordaining him, when summoned, to appear before the Presbytery, and submit to an examination, according to law.

A complaint, at the instance of Mr George Skene Keith, against a sentence of the Synod of Aberdeen, in the cause anent supplying the vacancies of Aberdeen and Old Machar, heard : The Assembly, upon a motion, unanimously reversed the sentence of the Synod of Aberdeen, and both the judgments of the Presbytery of Aberdeen, and leave the Presbytery to grant supply of vacancies for the future, according to their own discretion.

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The Committee for overtures and bills, appointed to meet this evening at seven o'clock.

Adjournment.

Tuesday, May 21. 1793. Sess. 4.

Sederunt.

New Commissions produced.

Report of the Committee for overtures called for, given in, and read.

It was objected to the Commission from the Burgh of North-Berwick, "That the date of the election is *the 4th of March*, which is two days too early." The General Assembly sustained the objection, and rejected the Commission.

Report of the Committee for bills called for, given in, and read.

Agreed to take up the cause of Mr James Dallas as the first private cause, after the cause of Girthon.

The Committees for revising the Commission, and Royal Bounty records, appointed to meet to-morrow.

The overture anent the more correct printing of the common editions of the Bible, ordered to lie on the table till Thursday.

A reference from the Synod of Lothian and Tweeddale, respecting the annexation of the Parishes of Broughton, Glenholm, Kilbucho, and Culter, partly heard. The Assembly agreed to adjourn this cause for a little, until a memorial, which was sent for, giving an account of the state of these Parishes, was produced.

In the mean time, the Assembly proceeded to consider a petition for the Reverend Dr Boyd, Minister of Penningham, and the Kirk-session of that Parish, respecting the driving of cattle on the Lord's day: And after reasoning: The Assembly, considering the great importance of the due observance of the Lord's day, recommend it to the Session of Penningham, to correspond with the Procurator upon the subject of their petition; and the Assembly instruct the Procurator to take this matter under his consideration, and report his opinion to next Assembly: And, in the mean time, the Assembly enjoin all the Ministers of this Church, to take every proper method in their power to prevent the profanation, and to promote the due observance, of the Lord's day.

The Assembly then resumed the consideration of the annexation of the Parishes of Broughton, &c. and having heard a memorial on the subject read; appointed a special Committee to enquire into the facts respecting these parishes, who are to report their opinion to the Assembly on Saturday.

Adjournment.

Wednesday,

ABRIDGMENT. 1793.

Wednesday, May 22. 1793. Sess. 6.

Sederunt.

A new Commission produced.

A certificate was produced, from which it appeared, That William Scott, Esq; Banker in Edinburgh, has signed the *Formula*, enjoined by the 11th act of Assembly 1694: The Assembly therefore sustained the Commission from the Burgh of Elgin in his favour, and allowed him to take his seat in the Assembly.

A reference from the Presbytery of Garioch, respecting a libel against Mr Robert Shepherd, Minister of Daviot, heard: A motion was made and seconded, That the Assembly dismiss the reference, reserving to the parties every right that was competent to them before the libel was resolved upon, and served on the defender: To which motion, the Assembly agreed, without a vote.

Committees appointed to meet.

The Assembly agreed to resolve themselves into a Committee of the whole House, on the cause of Girthon, to meet tomorrow at eleven o'clock.

Adjournment.

Thursday, May 23. 1793. Sess. 7.

Sederunt.

The public accounts produced, and ordered to lie on the table.

Report of the Committee for bills called for, given in, and read.

The Assembly having called for the Report of the Committee of the whole House, appointed to hear and consider the appeal, at the instance of James Kirkpatrick, and others, Elders, and heads of families in the Parish of Girthon, against a sentence of the Presbytery of Kirkcudbright, of date the 1st day of May current, in the cause, at their instance, against Mr John Macnaught, minister of the Gospel in the Parish of Girthon, the same was given in and read, and which report, after parties being called, proceeds as follows: "It having
" been objected, that the Committee could not proceed in
" this cause, in the personal absence of Mr Macnaught, who
" is at present incarcerated by the civil power in the Tol-
" booth of Kirkcudbright. The Committee agreed to hear
" the Council at the Bar on this preliminary point; and
" they being accordingly heard, the Committee, without a
" vote, repelled the said objection. Parties were then heard
" on the merits of the cause. And upon a motion made,
" the Committee unanimously agreed to report to the Assem-
" bly, as their opinion, that the sentence of the Presbytery
" should be reversed, and that Mr John Macnaught ought
" to be deposed from the office of the Holy Ministry."

The General Assembly having considered the above report,
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unanimously approved thereof: And therefore, after prayer, the General Assembly, in the name of the LORD JESUS CHRIST, the sole King and Head of His Church, and by virtue of the power and authority committed by Him to them, did, and hereby do, depose Mr John Macnaught, Minister of the Gospel of the Parish of Girthon, in the Presbytery of Kirkcudbright, from the office of the Holy Ministry, prohibiting and discharging him to exerce the same, or any part thereof, in all time coming: And the General Assembly did, and hereby do, declare the Church and Parish of Girthon vacant, from and after the day and date of this sentence. The Moderator intimated this sentence from the Chair; and the Assembly ordained the Presbytery of Kirkcudbright, to cause the same to be intimated from the Pulpit of the Parish of Girthon.

The Committee on new applications; and the Committee for bills, appointed to meet.

Adjournment.

Friday, May 24. 1793. Sess. 8.

Sederunt.

Report of the Committee for bills called for, given in, and read.

Report of the Committee on new applications called for, given in, and read, and ordered to be taken up to-morrow.

The Committee for revising the Synod-books, ordered to report to-morrow.

The Report of the Committee appointed to class returns to overtures, given in, and ordered to lie on the table.

The Report of the Trustees of the fund established by Act of Parliament, for a provision to Minister's widows, &c. containing an account of their proceedings since last General Assembly, and a state of the fund under their management, given in, and ordered to lie on the table till Monday: And, upon a motion, the thanks of the House were given from the Chair to Sir Henry Moncreiff Wellwood for his fidelity, attention, and prudence in the management of the fund.

Sir Henry Moncreiff gave in the report on the augmentation bill, which was read, and ordered to lie on the table till to-morrow.

The Report of the Committee on the embarrassed situation of the funds of the Church, given in, and read, and ordered to lie on the table till to-morrow.

The Assembly resumed consideration of the overture from the Synod of Glasgow and Ayr, respecting the more accurate printing of the common editions of the Bible. A Letter from the King's Printer to the Moderator was read; and along with it, specimens of a new edition of the common Bible were produced. The Assembly felt it their bounded duty to pay every attention to the printing of the Bible; but, upon considering the Letter from his Majesty's Printer, and having viewed the said specimens which were given in, they thought it

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it unnecessary to proceed any farther in this matter at present.

The Report of the Committee on the annexation of the parishes of Broughton, &c. was given in, and ordered to lie on the table till to-morrow.

An appeal, at the instance of Sir Alexander Mackenzie of Coul, Baronet, and others, heritors of the parish of Contin, from a sentence of the Synod of Ross, of date 23d April last, in a process of Simony, at their instance, against Mr James Dallas, Preacher of the Gospel, presentee to the parish of Contin, heard: The General Assembly found, that there is no foundation for the charge of Simony against Mr Dallas, and therefore assolizied him from the said charge; and found, *1st*, That the Presbytery of Dingwall have acted irregularly and inconsistently, in receiving a libel against Mr Dallas, at a meeting of Presbytery, held for the sole purpose of moderating in a call to him: *2dly*, In having taken the libel to probation, previous to the judging of the relevancy thereof: *3dly*, In inflicting a censure upon Mr Dallas, for which the libel does not conclude, and after they had declared they had found the libel not proven. The Assembly therefore dismissed the whole process, and ordained the Presbytery of Dingwall to meet again, for the purpose of moderating in a call to the presentee, on or before the first Thursday of July next, and to proceed in the settlement of Mr Dallas, in the Church and Parish of Contin, according to the rules of the Church, so as to complete the same before the third Thursday of September next.

Adjournment.

Saturday, May 25. 1793. Sess. 9.

Sederunt.

Act approving of the account of Mr William Robertson, advocate, Procurator for the Church, and exonerating and discharging him, and his cautioners, of the sum of L. 681 : 0 : 7 $\frac{1}{2}$ Sterling, disbursed by him, and appointing, that he take credit in his next account, for the sum of L. 181 : 0 : 7 $\frac{1}{2}$ Sterling, being the balance due to him.

Act approving of the account of Mr George Cairncross, agent for the Church, and exonerating and discharging him of the sum of L. 220 : 0 : 3 Sterling, disbursed by him, and appointing, that he debit himself in his next account, with the sum of L. 10 : 18 : 8 Sterling, being the balance due by him.

Act approving of the account of Dr William Gloag, sub-clerk of Assembly, and exonerating and discharging him of the sum of L. 55 : 13 : 5 Sterling, disbursed by him, and appointing, that he take credit in his next account, for the sum of L. 18, 3 s. 5 d. Sterling, being the balance due to him.

Act approving of the account of Mr James Dickson, printer for the Church, and ordering payment of the sum of L. 11, 4 s. Sterling, being the amount thereof.

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Act approving of the account of Mr Elphinstone Balfour, stationer to the Church, and ordering payment of the sum of L. 14: 14: 8½ Sterling, being the amount thereof.

Act approving of the account of Mr William Murray, Clerk to the Committees of last Assembly, and ordering payment of the sum of L. 6: 19: 3 Sterling, being the amount thereof.

The Report of the Committee on new applications delayed till Monday.

Upon a petition and abstract grievances from the Synod of Orkney, being read, it was moved, and unanimously agreed to, that the General Assembly having considered the petition, with the abstract of grievances, under which the Clergy, and the people within the Synod of Orkney, have for a long time laboured; and being desirous to give them the most effectual aid, appoint a special Committee, with instructions, to select out of that abstract of grievances from time to time, until the whole be in some way redressed; those cases, which it appears to them upon an enquiry into all circumstances, most expedient to prosecute before the Court of Session, in the name, and at the expence of the Church; and empower the Procurator and Agent to act in this matter, according to the directions of this Committee. The Committee to report to next Assembly.

The Report of the visitors of the Commission record, called for; the Commission's conduct approved of; thanks given to the Moderator of the Commission; and their book ordered to be attested.

See Printed Acts,
No. V.

The Report of the Committee for naming the members of the COMMISSION of this ASSEMBLY, and preparing instructions to them, given in, and approved of: The Assembly added thereto Sir Henry Moncreiff Wellwood, one of the Ministers of St Cuthbert's, in place of the Moderator: And also added all those whose Commissions had been rejected, on account of informality, viz. From the Burgh of Inveraray, Humphry Trawfurd Campbell, Esq; younger of Ashnith; and from the Burgh of North Berwick, Sir Hew Hamilton Dalrymple of North-Berwick, Baronet.

See Printed Acts,
No. VI.

The Report of the visitors of the Royal Bounty record, given in, and read; the conduct of the managers approved of; and their book ordered to be attested.

A Committee named for managing the Royal Bounty this year, with a Commission and instructions to them.

The Synod-book of Merse and Teviotdale, ordered to be attested.

The Synod-book of Glasgow and Ayr ordered to be attested.

The Synod-book of Angus and Mearns ordered to be attested.

The Committee on the scheme for erecting new parishes, renewed with the former powers.

The Committee on the Enzie fund renewed with the former powers,—The names of which Committee are as follow, the Moderator, Dr Hunter, Mr William Simpson, Mr Greenfield, Dr John Kemp, Sir Henry Moncreiff, Mr Moodie, Ministers; the

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the Procurator, Bailie Leslie, Mr Thomas Smith, writer, Mr James Saunders, writer, Mr George Andrew, writer, Mr Solicitor-General; and the Assembly added thereto James Gordon, younger of Craig, Esq; and William Gordon, younger of Rothny, Esq;

The Report of the Committee on the bill for defining and regulating the powers of the Commission of Teinds in the augmentation and modification of stipends, being called for, given in, and read: The Lord Advocate stated to the House, that the bill was not to be considered as lost, but was withdrawn by him, at the desire of a great body of the landholders of Scotland, who had represented to him that they had not considered the same with sufficient attention, and who requested a delay.

Upon a motion made, and unanimously agreed to, the Moderator from the Chair gave the thanks of the House to the Lord Advocate for his great and uniform attention to the interest of the Church, and his zealous exertions on this occasion.

The Assembly having further deliberated upon the state of the bill as represented by the Lord Advocate, a motion was made, and unanimously agreed to, That the General Assembly having considered the Report of the Committee, appointed by the Commission of last Assembly, together with the information given by the Lord Advocate in his place, renew the Committee of last Assembly, and add thereto several other members: And they appointed the Moderator Convener, and instruct the Committee to attend to the subject, and to take such steps as shall appear to them most conducive to the interest of the Church.

The Report of the Committee on the embarrassed state of the Church funds was called for, given in, and read.—A motion was made, and unanimously agreed to, that the General Assembly having considered this Report, are of opinion, that with the present scanty revenue of the Church, it is impossible to devise any method of extricating the funds from their embarrassed situation, and therefore unanimously agree to appoint the Moderator, Dr Hunter, Dr Hill, Dr Carlyle; the Lord President, the Lord Advocate, Mr Solicitor-General, the Procurator, and Mr Dalzel, as a Committee, to consider the most respectful method of applying to the Crown, for an augmentation of the funds of the Church, and to report to next Assembly; and they appointed the Procurator Convener.

The Report of the Committee appointed to consider the reference respecting the annexation of the parishes of Broughton, &c. called for, given in, and read, and unanimously approved of.

Adjournment.

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Monday, May 27. 1793. *Sess' Ult.*

Sederunt.

The Report of the Trustees of the fund established by Act of Parliament, for a provision to Minister's widows, &c. again called for, and ordered to be recorded in the separate Register kept for that purpose.

List of Probationers produced; their names read out, and ordered to be recorded.

The Report of the Committee on new applications for shares of the Public money, again called for, given in, and read.

The Petition for the Ministers of Tongue, Duirness, and Edrachilles, in Sutherland, respecting the stipends of those parishes; and the Petition from the Presbytery of Kirkaldy, respecting the glebe of the Parish of Kirkaldy, being both read, they were ordered to lie on the table till next Assembly.

The Petition for Mr Patrick Macdonald, minister of Keltmore and Kilbride, craving aid, was read, and the prayer thereof refused.

A Petition for Mr George Campbell, one of the Ministers of Cupar in Fife, being read; the Assembly remit this Petition to the Procurator and Agent for the Church, with instructions to defend what is stated therein, at the public expence, if the Procurator shall be satisfied that the claim is good.

The Report of the Committee appointed to class the returns to overtures, was called for, given in, and read. The Assembly delayed the consideration of the alterations proposed by some Presbyteries; and, in the mean time, agreed to transmit the overture respecting the licensing of probationers, and also the overture respecting the annexation and suppression of Parishes, with a renewal of the recommendation to such Presbyteries as have sent no returns, to send them without further delay:—And that the Clerks of Assembly shall send, in a separate edition, copies of these overtures to the different Presbyteries by post.

The Report of the Committee appointed by last Assembly on the Horse Tax, was called for,—When the Procurator stated, that the case of Mr Macmorine, Minister of Carlaverock, had been tried by the Commissioners of Supply of the County of Dumfries, who decided the matter unanimously in Mr Macmorine's favour: But that the cause being brought by appeal before the Barons of Exchequer, they unanimously reversed the sentence of the said Commissioners, by which decision, the Ministers of the Church of Scotland have been found liable to pay the Horse Tax. The Assembly, after reasoning, agreed to proceed no farther in this matter at present.

Upon

See Printed Acts,
No. VII. and
VIII.

A B R I D G M E N T. 1793.

Upon a motion made, and unanimously agreed to, the Moderator from the Chair, recommended to such Ministers as have not yet furnished Sir John Sinclair with Statistical Accounts of their respective Parishes, to contribute, with all the expedition in their power, to complete a work of such apparent utility.

Protestations admitted.

A Committee named to revise the Minutes of the Assembly's proceedings at this, and all other diets thereof, and to pitch upon such of the Acts of the Assembly as are to be standing rules, in order to their being printed.

The Moderator's speech to the Assembly, and to his Grace the Commissioner.

The Lord High Commissioner's speech to the Assembly.

Act appointing next meeting of the Assembly.

The Assembly concluded with prayer, singing of psalms, and No. IX. See Printed Acts,
pronouncing the blessing.

